

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously Presented) An information communication apparatus comprising:
  - a) input means for inputting data;
  - b) enciphering means for enciphering the data;
  - c) judgment means for judging whether or not to perform enciphering based on a reception signal;
  - d) selection means for selecting whether or not to use said enciphering means based on a judgment result of said judgment means; and
  - e) transmission means for transmitting said enciphered data in case of being selected to use by said selection means, and for transmitting said input data in case of being selected not to use.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) An information communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reception signal is a signal concerning a communication medium to which the apparatus on a transmission side and the apparatus on a reception side are connected.
4. (Previously Presented) An information communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reception signal is a signal representing whether or not the apparatus on a reception side can decipher the enciphered data.
5. (Previously Presented) An information communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reception signal is a signal representing a security level of said data .

6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously Presented) An information communication method comprising the steps of:
  - a) inputting data;
  - b) selecting whether or not to encipher the data;
  - c) judging whether or not to perform enciphering based on a reception signal;
  - d) enciphering the data according to said selection step based on a judgment result of said judging step; and
  - e) transmitting said enciphered data in case of being selected to use by said selection step, and transmitting said input data in case of being selected not to use.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) An information communication method according to claim 7, wherein said reception signal is a signal concerning a communication medium to which the apparatus on a transmission side and the apparatus on a reception side are connected.
10. (Previously Presented) An information communication method according to claim 7, wherein said reception signal is a signal representing whether or not the apparatus on a reception side can decipher the enciphered data.
11. (Previously Presented) An information communication method according to claim 7, wherein said reception signal is a signal representing a security level of said data.
- 12.-19. (Canceled)
20. (Previously Presented) A computer readable memory medium storing a program for functioning a computer as means described in claim 7.

Serial No. 09/412,900  
§ 1.111 Amendment

Docket No. 1232-4577

21.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) An information communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said judgment means judges whether or not to perform the enciphering based on plural reception signals.